

HCS SCS SB 391 -- PAIN MANAGEMENT

SPONSOR: Shields (Portwood)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Senior Security by a vote of 16 to 0.

This substitute establishes the Missouri State Advisory Council on Pain and Symptom Management. The council will consist of 19 members, who will be appointed by February 1, 2004. The council's duties will include:

- (1) Holding public hearings to gather information relating to pain management;
- (2) Making recommendations on acute and chronic pain management practices;
- (3) Analyzing statutes, rules, and regulations relating to pain management;
- (4) Studying the use of alternative therapies and any sanctions imposed;
- (5) Examining the needs of adults, children, the terminally ill, and minorities that have acute and chronic pain;
- (6) Reviewing the pain management education materials provided by professional licensing boards;
- (7) Making recommendations to health care professionals for integrating pain management into their practices and recommendations regarding continuing education requirements for pain management;
- (8) Reviewing guidelines issued by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services; and
- (9) Preparing an annual report to deliver to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, President Pro Tem of the Senate, and Governor by February 1 of each year.

Members of the council will serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for any expenses incurred, subject to appropriation. The Department of Health and Senior Services will provide existing personnel to staff the council.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Net Cost to General Revenue Fund of \$8,280 in FY 2004, \$16,560 in FY 2005, and \$16,560 in FY 2006.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that pain management is a critical issue for many Missourians. The majority of cancer patients experience uncontrolled pain at some point in the course of their illness, and proper pain management could prevent some terminally ill patients from considering suicide.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Shields; Representative Guest; Missouri State Chiropractors Association; American Cancer Society; Missouri Catholic Conference; and Johnson & Johnson.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Mark Pioli, Legislative Analyst